

PROGRAM ACTIVITY REPORT (PAR)



Ukraine Workshop on Wildlife Disease Surveillance

NWDP is collaborating with USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service to improve capacity within Ukraine to conduct disease surveillance in wildlife. Specific objectives for this project include strengthening Ukraine's wildlife management and disease surveillance programs, promoting effective and efficient use of samples collected from the field to broaden surveillance of animal diseases, and working on existing response systems for emerging wildlife disease outbreaks.

A Ukrainian delegation representing government laboratories and Academy of Sciences visited the United States from August 19th to 26th. Subject matter experts from Wildlife Services and Veterinary Services provided information on surveillance and control of wildlife diseases, on how to evaluate the economic impacts of outbreaks, on the role of epidemiology/risk assessments, and on the importance of diagnostics. The group also met with scientists at Colorado State University to discuss diagnostics and tour laboratory facilities. The delegation traveled to Texas for the second half of the week. WS Texas State Director provided an overview of wildlife damage management,



with specifics on both managing feral swine and disease surveillance in feral swine. The WS Texas program demonstrated devices for capturing feral swine and aerial gunning to reduce populations. A historical perspective of the rabies program in Texas was also presented. How the program operates along the border with Mexico was of particular interest, because it related to the Ukrainian's effort to address the threat of European wild boars carrying African swine fever across their borders with other countries.



The Ukrainian delegation also worked with Wildlife Services to develop a wildlife disease workshop for a larger group in Kiev, Ukraine this fall. Agreed upon topics will cover overviews of wildlife damage management and wildlife disease surveillance. This will include

developing surveillance plans, capture techniques, sampling techniques, and laboratory diagnostics. The diseases of primary interest include African

swine fever, classical swine fever, brucellosis, pseudorabies and influenza in wild swine. There also will be sessions on conducting wild bird surveillance to detect avian influenza and Newcastle disease, along with red fox management, and surveillance and control of rabies.

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The original artwork on this page was created by the National Wildlife Disease Program's Erika Kampe and Sarah Goff



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